

Claim 37. (Original) A method of reducing gastrointestinal adverse side effects comprising directing oral administration of an effective amount of a delayed release pharmaceutical composition comprising tranexamic acid and at least one agent that delays release of the tranexamic acid from the composition until the small intestine.

II. REMARKS

A. Status of the Claims

Applicants respectfully submit that claims 1-24 have been cancelled without prejudice. Claims 25-34 are pending.

B. Response to Restriction Requirement

In the Office Action, the Examiner issued a Restriction Requirement, and stated that restriction to one of the following inventions is required:

Group I: Claims 1-24 drawn to a composition comprising tranexamic acid, classified in class 424, subclass 400.

Group II: Claims 25-37 drawn to method of reducing the effect of tranexamic acid, classified in class 514, subclass 460.

In response to restriction requirement, Applicants hereby elect, without traverse, Group II, claims 25-37 drawn to a method of reducing the effect of tranexamic acid, classified in class 514, subclass 460.

C. Response to Election of Specie Requirement

In the Office Action, the Examiner indicated that if Applicant elected Group II (method of reducing the effect of tranexamic acid), Applicant would also have to elect: i) "one specific specie that retards tranexamic acid or one specific excipient that results in decreased stomach concentration of tranexamic acid" and ii) "one side effect of the tranexamic acid or one specific agent that provides extended release or delayed release of the tranexamic acid."

In response to the election of species requirement under 35 U.S.C. 121, Applicants hereby elect without traverse the following patentably distinct specie of the claimed invention: methacrylic acid copolymers.

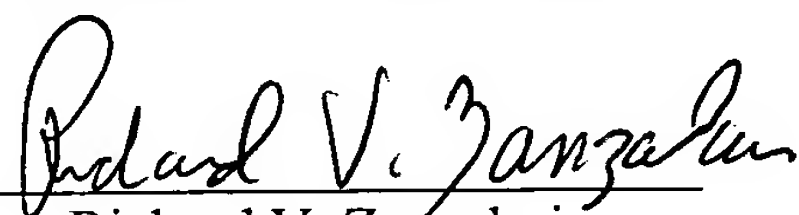
With regard to the election of a side effect of the tranexamic acid, Applicants hereby elect without traverse the following patentably distinct specie of the claimed invention: gastrointestinal side effects.

CONCLUSION

This Response is being submitted within 1 (one) month from the mailing date of the Office Action, thus no fees are believed to be due. If it is determined that any fees are due, the Commissioner is specifically authorized to charge said fees to Deposit Account No. 50-0552.

Respectfully submitted,

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